

# Ken Reeves Elected Mayor of Cambridge

By Marie Y. Thibault  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

City Councillor Kenneth Reeves was elected and inaugurated to a two-year term as mayor of Cambridge on Jan. 2, replacing Councillor Michael Sullivan. Reeves, who ran against Councillor Denise Simmons, was elected by the Council in a five-to-four vote.

Reeves is far from new to the job. He was Cambridge's mayor from 1992 to 1995, as the first black mayor in Massachusetts and America's first openly gay black mayor, according to the *Cambridge Chronicle*.

According to the Cambridge Civic Journal, Reeves had the support of councillors Marjorie Decker, Anthony Galluccio, Sullivan, Timothy Toomey, and himself. Simmons re-

ceived votes from Councillors Henrietta Davis, Brian Murphy, Craig Kelley, and herself. Reeves, Toomey, Kelley, and Simmons could not be reached for comment yesterday.

After Reeves received the majority, Davis, Murphy, and Simmons gave their votes to Reeves, to show their acceptance of his election. Kelley, however, did not switch his vote, because, as he told the *Chronicle*, he is "very cognizant of the fact that Denise has some kids in the [public] schools." The mayor heads the Cambridge School Committee.

Kelley, who was elected last fall as the first non-incumbent councillor since 2001, said in his campaign platform that the "Cambridge Pub-

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(left to right) Jane M. Wolcott '09, Alan T. Deckelbaum '09, and Roshini S. Zachariah '09 discuss the design of their prototype LEGO robot in the 6.270 lab, 38-601. The autonomous robot design competition began Monday.

## Biology Dept. Modifies Grad Admit Policy

By Jenny Zhang  
NEWS EDITOR

In a change to a long-standing policy, MIT undergraduates in the Biology Department are no longer forbidden from enrolling in the department's graduate program.

In the current application cycle, however, fewer than 10 out of more than 550 applicants are MIT biology majors, said Professor Stephen P. Bell, chair of the department's graduate committee. Because a typical graduate biology class consists of 30-35 students according to Bell, the change is unlikely to significantly affect the makeup of next fall's incoming graduate class.

In the past, MIT undergraduate biology majors were strictly excluded from admission into the graduate program because the undergraduate and graduate curriculums were too similar, Bell said,

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## Greenblatt Stays As Executive VP Search Goes On

By Rosa Cao  
STAFF REPORTER

Sherwin Greenblatt '62 will continue to serve as interim executive vice president for finance and administration of MIT for up to two more years, while the search for a permanent replacement for former executive vice president John R. Curry continues.

"Sherwin Greenblatt is doing a terrific job as the EVP, and President Hockfield is grateful for his willingness to continue in that role, and wants to acknowledge his generosity," said Kirk D. Kolenbrander, senior advisor to the president.

Greenblatt, former president of Bose Corporation, came out of retirement at Hockfield's request in August 2005, and will be taking on duties devolving from the restructured Treasurer's Office, as well as helping with the executive vice president search and transition process.

Greenblatt said organizational challenges lie ahead, including those necessary for absorbing the treasurer's former functions into the

Greenblatt, Page 11

## Lobdell Soon to Serve Indian Food

By Angeline Wang  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

By the first day of spring semester, Lobdell Food Court will be serving Indian food instead of Italian, said Richard D. Berlin III, director of campus dining. Cafe Spice Express, an Indian food vendor, will replace the Mangia Mangia Italian food service in Lobdell. Construction is ongoing, Berlin said.

The food at Mangia Mangia was "too repetitious," Berlin said, referring to multiple locations on campus where students can purchase Italian food. "It hasn't done very well, and if

something isn't working, you have to move on. This change is a great opportunity to have more variety."

The decision to include Indian food was made based on a survey conducted two years ago regarding the space that now hosts Anna's Taqueria, Berlin said. The responses showed students were interested in a variety of ethnic cuisine, including Japanese and Middle Eastern food, both currently offered in Lobdell, as well as Indian food.

Cafe Spice Express, part of a New York-based restaurant group, offers traditional Indian cuisine designed to

be fast and relatively inexpensive. The restaurant was listed in the *Nation's Restaurant News 50: Fast-Casual Players* last year.

"They seem to have a very good concept," said Berlin, who visited the Cafe Spice Express outlet in Roosevelt Field Mall, New York City. "I liked what I saw there."

This is the first time Cafe Spice will be available on a college campus, Berlin said. The menu and prices are being finalized, and entrees are likely to range from \$2.95 to \$6.25, about a dollar cheaper than prices at the Roosevelt outlet, he said.

## Arts Provost Brody Will Step Down

By Jenny Zhang  
NEWS EDITOR

Associate Provost for the Arts Alan Brody will be returning to full-time teaching and playwriting at the end of this academic year, according to an MIT News Office press release. Brody has held the position of associate provost for 10 years, and is an "unswerving and passionate advocate of the arts at MIT," Provost L. Rafael Reif told the News Office. Brody has also been an MIT professor of theater arts since 1988.

Reif said in the press release that he is meeting members of the MIT community as part of the process of finding a successor.

Brody "fostered a sense of community and identity among students and faculty engaged in the arts, through such activities as the creation of the Freshman Arts Seminar and Advising Program and the MIT Arts Scholars Program," Reif said in the press release. Brody's leadership also oversaw the expansion of the List Visual Arts Center and the Office of the Arts.

According to the press release,

Brody, Page 9



Instructor Frank Y. Lo '08 break dances in Lobby 13 on Tuesday night as part of an Independent Activities Period lesson.

RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH

The Tech will publish Wednesdays during IAP. Regular publication on Tuesdays and Fridays will resume February 7.



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## Bonvillian To Lead MIT's D.C. Office

By Kelley Rivoire  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

William Boone Bonvillian, legislative director and chief counsel for U.S. Senator Joseph Lieberman, was tapped last week as the next head of MIT's Washington Office. During his 16 years working with Lieberman, a Democrat from Connecticut, Bonvillian was deeply involved with science and technology policy.

Bonvillian will take over leadership of MIT's Washington Office as director for federal relations on Jan. 30, replacing retiring Vice President for Federal Relations John C. Crowley.

The Washington Office, founded in 1991 by then President Charles M. Vest with Crowley as founding director, is MIT's primary connection with Congress, federal government agencies, and other national higher education and science groups in Washington.

"I have long viewed MIT as a critical institution in the future of our society and economy and have respected its historic role in national science policymaking," Bonvillian, who is currently out of the country, told the MIT News Office last week. "I am excited about supporting the ideas that flow from its great talent base."

Alice P. Gast, associate provost and a member of the search committee that selected Bonvillian, told the News Office that his "breadth of knowledge and understanding of the university-government relationship" were impressive.

Research articles written by Bonvillian in recent years indicate that he views declines in federal funding for the physical sciences and a shrinking talent pool in science and engineering as areas of grave concern.

In a 2002 article in *Technology and Science* Bonvillian called falling enrollment of top students in graduate programs in the physical sciences and engineering "a serious warning signal," and a sharp contrast to the recent boom in enrollment in the life sciences.

In the Fall 2004 *Issues in Science*

Bonvillian, Page 11



# WORLD & NATION

## Israel Likely to Let East Jerusalem Palestinians Vote

By Greg Myre

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM

Israel now appears likely to allow Palestinians to vote in East Jerusalem in Palestinian parliamentary elections this month, a move that would resolve a pressing dispute with the Palestinians.

Israel's government has not announced any major decisions since Prime Minister Ariel Sharon suffered a stroke on Jan. 4, and political quarrels have largely been put on hold in deference to his condition. Sharon remained in a medically induced coma on Tuesday, though he showed small improvements, his doctors said.

Even so, the Cabinet, led by Ehud Olmert, the acting prime minister, plans to vote Sunday on a proposal that would allow Palestinians to cast ballots in East Jerusalem in the Jan. 25 elections. Israeli officials had said they would oppose voting inside the city, which both sides claim as their capital, because the ballots include candidates from Hamas, an Islamic faction that calls for Israel's destruction.

## Some Turks Have Bird Flu Virus But Lack Symptoms

By Elisabeth Rosenthal

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ANKARA, TURKEY

Two young brothers, ages 4 and 5, who have tested positive for the dreaded H5N1 avian virus but shown no symptoms of the disease were being closely watched at Kecioren Hospital here on Tuesday. Doctors are unsure whether they are for the first time seeing human bird flu in its earliest stages or if they are discovering that infection with the H5N1 virus does not always lead to illness.

In any case, the highly unusual cluster of five cases detected here in Turkey's capital over the last three days — all traceable to contact with sick birds — is challenging some of the doctors' assumptions about bird flu and giving them new insights into how it spreads and causes disease. Since none of the five have died, it is raising the possibility that human bird flu is not as deadly as currently thought, and that many mild cases in Asian countries may have gone unreported.

"The two brothers are a very interesting finding that may for the first time give us a chance to monitor the human response to the disease," said Dr. Guenael Rodier, who is leading a World Health Organization Team now in Turkey.

## SEC Plans Overhaul of Corporate Compensation Rules

By Stephen Labaton

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Outlining the details of his first major initiative, Christopher Cox, the new head of the Securities and Exchange Commission, said that next week the agency would propose the most extensive overhaul since 1992 of the way companies disclose compensation to senior executives and directors.

"The marketplace for executive compensation has proceeded apace in the intervening decade and a half and the results have been an increasing amount of executive compensation that is escaping disclosure," Cox told a group of reporters over lunch at the agency's headquarters.

Once adopted, the new rules would provide considerable assistance to investors, who are often unable to glean from corporate filings the total compensation of top executives. But the rules would still fall far short of the ambitious corporate democracy proposals made for many years by stockholders and some lawmakers, including one proposal that would give the investors some say in setting pay scales.

Those proposals have gained little political traction in Washington, even as a growing body of evidence has emerged to suggest that at many companies there is no correlation between executive pay and company performance.

# Despite Western Opposition, Iran Reopens Nuclear Centers

By Steven R. Weisman and Nazila Fathi

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Iran broke open internationally monitored seals on at least three of its nuclear facilities on Tuesday, clearing the way for uranium enrichment activities that Europeans and Americans say are a crucial step toward making a nuclear weapon.

The Iranians said the step was only for research on enriching uranium, and outside experts said Iran was still years away from producing enough fuel for a bomb.

But the United States and its European allies condemned the action and stepped up a campaign to persuade the board of the International Atomic Energy Agency to refer Iran to the U.N. Security Council for possible sanctions, perhaps by the end of the month.

It was unclear whether Russia and China would support a move toward sanctions, even though both called on Iran as recently as this weekend not to resume enrichment. A European diplomat acknowledged that there was still an "obvi-

ous reluctance" by the two countries to "gang up on the Iranians."

A senior administration official noted, however, that a Foreign Ministry statement in Moscow declared on Tuesday that Russia was "deeply disappointed by Iran's declared decision" and recalled that a Russian envoy had "insistently advised them not to take this step" in a visit to Tehran last weekend.

"For the Russians, this is an angry statement," said the administration official, who did not want to be identified while discussing tactics or strategy, as opposed to settled policy. The official added that U.S. officials would confer with the other Europeans and the Russians in the next couple of days before deciding what action to take against Iran.

"We view this as a serious escalation on the part of Iran on the nuclear issue," said Sean McCormack, the State Department spokesman. "What you see here is the international community coming out and sending a very clear message to Iran that their behavior is unacceptable."

German, French and British officials joined in assailing the Iranian action. Over the last year, the three

nations persuaded the Bush administration to go along with their effort to negotiate with Iran to keep a freeze on activities that Iran says are peaceful but that many Western experts believe are part of a covert weapons program.

The negotiations involved European offers of economic incentives, including the sale of aircraft parts and talks leading to trade preferences. But Iran's action appears to have derailed any such discussions for now.

"The Iranians have behaved so remarkably badly, it's hard to believe that the international community will do anything other than put them in front of the ultimate court of international public opinion," a European diplomat said, referring to the Security Council. "That is where the Iranians are heading." The official did not want to be identified by name or country to preserve a united front with his European colleagues.

President Jacques Chirac of France criticized Iran's action as a grave error, and the new German foreign minister, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, said Iran was sending "very, very disastrous signals."

# Twenty Suspected of Connection To Terror Recruitment Arrested

By Renwick McLean

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MADRID, SPAIN

The Spanish police arrested 20 people on Tuesday in connection with a recruiting network that, according to the Interior Ministry, sent Islamic militants to join the insurgency in Iraq. One of the militants was an Algerian suspected of killing 19 Italians in a suicide bombing in 2003, the ministry said.

The suspects are the third group that the Spanish have arrested in less than seven months on charges of aiding the insurgency. Spain has made a total of 46 arrests.

Nearly two years after the train bombings in Madrid killed 191 people on March 11, 2004, fears are growing that the country is becoming increasingly fertile ground for the recruitment of Islamic extremists.

The network just broken up was

the most sophisticated of those uncovered so far, the ministry said. Cells based in Barcelona and Madrid raised money, falsified documents, recruited, and indoctrinated potential extremists, it said.

The recruits were then sent on to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the American forces' most wanted man in Iraq, and other militant leaders, the ministry said.

The network had links with militant groups in countries including France, Belgium, Holland, Algeria, Morocco, Turkey, and Syria, the ministry said, without offering details.

"This operation shows once again that the government is in a permanent fight against international terrorism, a task that we must pursue with all possible attention and determination," Jose Antonio Alonso, the interior minister, said at a news conference here.

Alonso confirmed suspicions that some of the militants recruited for duty in Iraq had begun returning to Spain and other countries to begin operations in their native or adopted lands.

One of the network's missions, he said, was harboring veterans of the Iraqi conflict who had returned home to scout for possible terrorist targets in Europe and help identify promising recruits.

Interior ministry officials identified Syria and Jordan as countries through which recruits were transported on their way to Iraq.

Officials said that the network, which focused on finding militants who would be willing to carry out suicide attacks in Iraq, appears to have done most of its recruiting in Spain. But investigators said that the group also helped transport militants recruited in North Africa.

# WEATHER

## 2005: Mother Nature's Fury

By Brian H. Tang

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The recently departed year will certainly be one to remember in terms of the weather. The year began with a ferocious blizzard. When it stopped snowing on January 23, over 20 inches of snow had fallen in the Boston area. Good thing those type of storms don't occur every winter (knock on wood). After a few more potent winter storms, Spring finally came, but May was awfully gray.

We got a blistering seven days of sunshine the entire month. Otherwise, it was rain rain rain. Spring quickly passed, and summer arrived with the heat, humidity, and the hurricanes. Twenty-seven named storms formed from the beginning of June to the end of December wreaking havoc along with Gulf Coast.

Not only did we see the most hurricanes in a single season, we saw the strongest hurricane ever recorded (Wilma) and the most destructive hurricane to strike the U.S. (Katrina). In the hurricane season's last gasp, Tropical Storm Zeta became only the second storm in recorded history to ring in the New Year and the longest lasting storm in the month of January.

No imminent blizzards or hurricanes in the forecast for Boston this week.

Temperatures will be quite mild for this time of year as the flow across the country is mostly west to east, versus north to south. There will be a couple rainstorms passing through the area, but any cold weather will hold off until the latter part of the weekend.

### Extended Forecast:

**Today:** Partly cloudy early, then increasing clouds with rain in the evening. High 49°F (9°C).

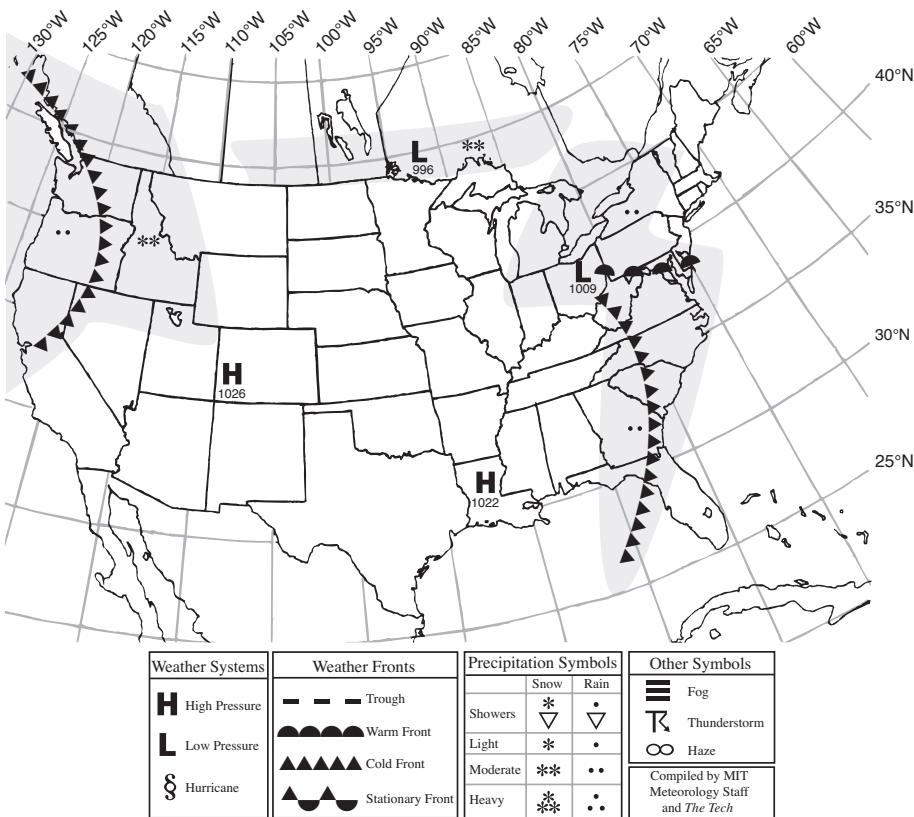
**Tonight:** Rain overnight, ending before sunrise. Low 41°F (5°C).

**Tomorrow:** Partly cloudy and mild. High 53°F (12°C).

**Friday:** Mostly sunny. High 53°F (12°C). Low 37°F (3°C).

**Saturday:** Cloudy and breezy with rain likely. High 47°F (8°C). Low 40°F (4°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Wednesday, January 11, 2006



# IRS Rejects Legal Tax Refunds Sought By Poor, Group Claims

By David Cay Johnston  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tax refunds sought by 1.6 million poor Americans over the last five years were frozen and their returns labeled fraudulent, although the vast majority appear to have done nothing wrong, the IRS' taxpayer advocate told Congress on Tuesday.

A computer program identified the refund requests as suspect and automatically flagged the taxpayers for extra scrutiny for years to come, the advocate said in her annual report to Congress. These taxpayers were not told that the IRS criminal investigation division suspected fraud.

The advocate, Nina Olson, said the IRS devotes vastly more resources

es to pursuing questionable refunds sought by the poor — which under the highest estimate is \$9 billion — than to the \$100 billion in taxes not paid each year by people who work for cash and fail to file tax returns or understate their income.

As for the suspected fraud in refund requests, Olson said her staff sampled suspected returns and found that 66 percent were entitled to the amount sought or more. Another 14 percent were due a partial refund. She expressed doubt that many among the remaining 20 percent had committed fraud.

Unless taxpayers press for their refunds, Olson said, they "are not given an opportunity to substantiate their claims or to show that any overclaims identified were due to

honest error rather than fraud."

The IRS criminal division defended its program as a successful effort to protect against refund fraud, saying it "has stopped literally billions of dollars of false refunds to criminals."

It said the program was intended to be fair to all taxpayers while efficiently using limited law enforcement resources.

Olson also said in her report that the IRS is answering far fewer telephone calls, spending far less to teach small businesses how to comply with the tax laws and, in general, is cutting back on services to help taxpayers comply with the law. She said cutting taxpayer assistance would probably result in making it more costly to collect taxes.

# Alito Pledges to Keep Open Mind About Abortion, Executive Power

By Richard W. Stevenson and Neil A. Lewis  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Judge Samuel A. Alito Jr. pledged on Tuesday to bring an open mind to the Supreme Court on abortion rights and sought to rebut suggestions that he has an overly expansive view of presidential powers as he parried a barrage of questions at the heart of his confirmation battle.

In his first public give and take with the ten Republicans and eight Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee who will pass initial judgment on his fitness for the seat being vacated by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Alito engaged in a day of

high stakes sparring with Democrats who are concerned that he would move the court to the right on some of the most divisive issues facing the nation.

Giving careful, limited answers to probing and sometimes aggressive questions about his views on abortion, Alito said he would give considerable weight to decades of rulings built on the concept that a decision to terminate a pregnancy falls under a constitutional right to privacy.

But he did not commit himself to upholding or overturning the right to an abortion, and he did not address whether he might support further incremental restrictions on abortions.

Under nine and a half hours of on and off questioning on the second day of his hearing before the committee, Alito also tried to avoid locking himself into any specific position on executive authority.

He said no president can operate outside the law and the Constitution, but he repeatedly dodged efforts to solicit his views on whether President Bush had exceeded his authority in the recently disclosed eavesdropping program and in the way terrorism suspects and enemy combatants have been held.

The judge, who was frequently defended by the panel's Republicans, addressed other issues that Democrats tried to use against him.

## California Parents Sue Over Intelligent Design Course

By Laurie Goodstein  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

A group of parents are suing their small California school district to force it to cancel a four-week high school elective on intelligent design, creationism and evolution that it offers as a philosophy course.

The course at Frazier Mountain High School in Lebec, which serves a rural area north of Los Angeles, was proposed by a special education teacher in December and approved by the board of trustees at an emergency meeting on New Year's Day. The 11 parents are seeking a temporary restraining order to stop the course, which is held during the winter session that ends Feb. 3.

Last month, a federal district court in Pennsylvania ruled it was unconstitutional to teach intelligent design in a public school science class because it promoted a particular religious belief. After the ruling, people on both sides of the debate suggested it might be constitutionally permissible to examine intelligent design in a philosophy, comparative religion or social studies class.

But the parents, represented by lawyers with Americans United for Separation of Church and State, contend that the teacher is advocating intelligent design and "young earth creationism," and is not examining those ideas in a neutral way alongside evolution.

Intelligent design posits that biological life is so complex that it must have been designed by an intelligent force. Young earth creationism holds to the Biblical account of the origins of life and the belief that the earth is 6,000 years old.

## EPA Looks to Overhaul Fuel Economy Ratings

By Micheline Maynard  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

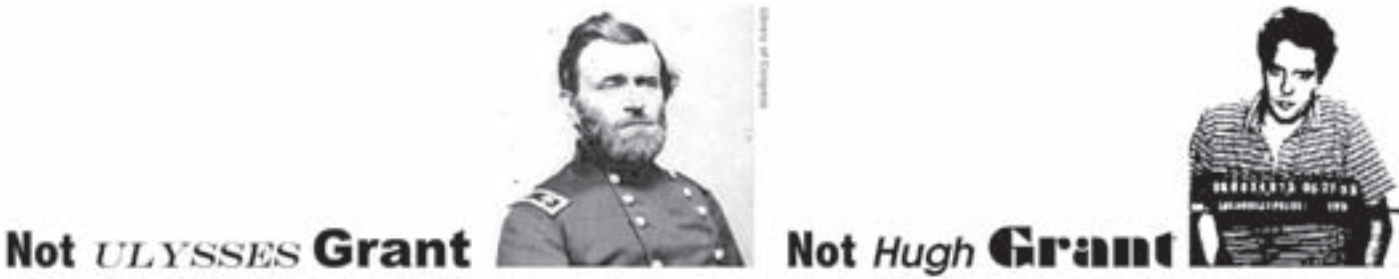
DETROIT

The Environmental Protection Agency on Tuesday proposed the first major overhaul in 20 years in the way it calculates fuel economy ratings for cars and trucks, a shift the agency said would reduce mileage estimates by 5 percent to 30 percent, depending on the type of driving and kind of vehicle.

The new testing method, according to Stephen L. Johnson, EPA's administrator, would come much closer to bridging "the gap between what the window sticker says and what consumers can expect in their fuel economy."

The EPA expects to introduce the changes starting with 2008 models, which will go on sale as early as a year from now.

Consumer groups have long complained that the EPA's ratings are far too optimistic, compared with fuel economy that drivers achieve under real-world conditions. Recent tests by Consumer Reports magazine, for example, found that EPA window stickers could be off by up to 50 percent.



IT'S *Council for the Arts*  **grant!**

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Application: <http://web.mit.edu/arts/do/funding/grantguide.html>



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## Letters To The Editor

### Trump Trumps Nobel?

Last month, Mr. Pinkett won the apprenticeship, with a Kresge screening, much fanfare, and my department sending out almost 10 different e-mails about it. Another alum, Robert Aumann, received a Nobel Prize. Not a single e-mail. Is this a good thing?

Yishai Boasson G

## Corrections

A Nov. 8, 2005 article about MIT alumni launching a start-up for space exploration incorrectly described the company's fundraising efforts. The company, 4Frontiers, has raised about \$1 million in private investments, not \$30 million. The company had set \$30 million as a fundraising goal for construction of a research and outreach center.

As recently pointed out by a reader, a Nov. 1, 1994 review of the film "Oleanna" incorrectly gave the name of the female character throughout the review. She is named Carol, not Oleanna.



"Now we know how many citations it takes to actually make the mine safer."

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GARY MARKSTEIN



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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted.

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# CAMPUS LIFE

## Imminent Collapse

Bill Andrews  
CAMPUS LIFE ASSOCIATE EDITOR

My goodness friends, it's already 2006. Just stop for a moment, and take a look around. Most of you are old enough to remember how things were 10 years ago; is this what you thought the future would be like? I, for instance, am very disappointed that there haven't been better advances in electric or flying cars (though, to be fair to the prophecy, those won't be in style till 2015 at the latest). And where are the jetpacks and moon bases predicted in the 1950s?

I mean, a lot of goofy sci-fi futures came true. Just read Jules Verne. Fax machines, phones, spaceships, all some crazy-ass stuff in the 19th century, but my man — nay, our man — Jules foresaw it all. Not how it worked, of course, he's no Asimov, but it was impressive nonetheless. Even Star Trek, that show so campy it has its own boy scout troop, had some good stuff in it. I mean, their high tech communicators were just cell phones, right? Antimatter fuel? Pretty cool. And beaming people around like there's no tomorrow? Well, I'm always hearing we're right on the brink of doing that, probably using quantum something. Not to mention the photon torpedoes and phaser weapons and every alien being humanoid, because those things were dumb and mentioning them would weaken my point.

So, the future's possible. We do have a lot of

### The Future Is When?!

cool stuff, like iPods, laptops, and GPS in cars (and by "we," I mean people much richer than I). We just have to want it (the future) enough. We have to strive for it, and appreciate the future we have while searching for and building the future we want. This is MIT, after all; we practically invent the future right here.

That's why, gentle reader, I offer you a small piece of the future right now. That's right, I'm actually referencing the headline this week: the future is now! Sure, not the flashy, shiny, jet-packy future of our dreams, but a legitimate, required part of the future. A part so important, it's worth all this hype. It's just one word, but as you read it, know that you will be a part of a historic presenting of the future.

Finé.

That's right, finé. It's pronounced "fee-NAY," and if you don't have a cool word processor that can do an accent, just go with finé'. Then it's like street finé. Now, what does it mean? Finé cannot be described, it can only be felt.

"Oh, man, look at that finé car! That's incredible!"

"Darling, you look absolutely finé in that outfit."

"How ya feelin'?" "Aw, baby, watch out, I'm feeling finé tonight!"

I think you get the drift. Finé is just that extra something you get from living in the fu-

ture. It's only just now possible for things to be finé. I should know. As some of my friends can tell you, I actually stumbled onto this bit of the future some time ago. For years, I tried using it and introducing people to it, earning only funny stares and derisive laughter for my troubles. I should have known it was not yet time. After I saw finé wasn't going anywhere, I gave up on it, dejected, demoralized, defeated. But then 2006 dawned, and in a conversation with my fiancée (that's right) it hit me: finé's time had come.

Thus is the future unveiled once more @mit.edu. The new year is upon us, and some crazy stuff's gonna go down, I just know it. Okay, so the first major discovery was mine, don't let it get you down; you all have the rest of the year! If my finé experience has shown me anything, it's that the future is worth waiting for, and worth fighting for; it haunts me that if only I'd persisted, finé might have been ready for use months ago. So go ahead and invent some amazing stuff you engineers, discover unthinkable laws scientists, do some ... good ... uh, calculus mathematicians. And stay cool humanities majors, don't worry about what anyone else thinks. Above all, though, keep striving to bring the future closer and closer. After all, you know what they say: "Time waits for no man, but the future's one lazy slacker."

Well, they're not saying it yet....

By Sarah Buckley  
STAFF COLUMNIST

This episode's dare, completed in the midst of finals week, was very straightforward: go to a mall and strip for Santa. The idea came from an online forum, and initially I wasn't too keen on it. But then people started posting comments calling me out, telling me I'm chicken, saying that my face looks like Abe Lincoln's. Well if there's one thing I can't take, it's being called chicken. I grabbed three friends, (including "B," who was featured in one of my earlier columns) and made the two-hour journey to Burlington Mall.

Waiting in line, I began to face second and, at times, third thoughts. Looking around at all the kids, I was overcome with a sense of what-the-hell-am-I-doing. I'm very awkward around young children, but I do think they're special and magical behind all the snot and the fact that they poop right into their pants. The family in front of me had this little girl with her hair up in pigtails, and she was so cute I just wanted to pick her up and pet her on the back of her head and feed her a leaf. As I said, I'm bad with kids.

As the line grew shorter, I turned to my friends for moral support, and that's when I realized it's a poor idea to rely on your right-wing Christian pal (B) to tell you that it's ok to party like it's 1999 in front of Santa. His lone piece of consolation was, "Well it's not in my position to tell you whether or not you're going to Hell. But God is watching." While my other friends were busy arguing religion with B, I was left alone to face the task ahead.

By the time we got to the front, we had been

### Dare Me?

#### Ho, Ho, Ho Indeed!

discussing the issue for half an hour, and the parents on either side of us had gotten some wind of what was to happen. Ironically enough, it was the father in front of me who really came through to give me the support I needed. "Heck, that's pretty funny," he chimed, "so my family and I are gonna stay and watch. You better follow through."

As B was getting his picture taken with Santa, I started chatting up the camera woman.

Me: Yeah, I'm going to be taking a pretty racy picture with your man Santa.

Her: So I hear, but why would you want to do that?

Me: I owe it to my fans.

Her: How do you have fans? Who are you?

Me: I'm Sarah, and I'm very famous. You know, I have my own Web site.

Her: I'm calling security.

I shooed B off of Santa's lap and sat down next to the fat guy in red, but the camera woman was standing to the side speaking animatedly into the phone. I was getting scared.

"What seems to be the trouble?"

It was Santa. He was talking to me. I looked up at him, into his warm and trusting eyes, and I told him everything.

"Ho, ho, ho. You know how I'd deal with a situation like that?"

"How, Santa? How would you do it?"

"My dear, you can't go through this asking permission from everyone along the way. At some point, you just have to take your own initiative and do what you came here to do."

For a split second, my world flashed before my eyes — the father with his family urging me on, my multitudinous fans waiting expectantly,

the camera woman hanging up the phone, the families waiting ... And I think about these kids — how will they be affected? Will this ruin Christmas forever? Will the six-month-old child waiting behind me remember this day in infamy? Will (s)he lose all faith in fat men dressed in red? And then I see my friends waiting with the camera, and I think about what Santa told me, and I realize that he's right: at some point I have to stop dissecting the situation or I'll never be able to go through with this or any other venture. And for the first time, my mind is clear.

The next few seconds come as a blur: one moment I was paralyzed and then next I was topless (bra on!) on Santa's lap, legs kicked in the air, grinning like an idiot. And then I remember one of my friends grabbing me, throwing on my coat, and the four of us running out into the cold, winter air. What just happened? Did I just do that? I turned the camera on and took a close look at the picture. Yes, it's perfectly scandalous and all that good stuff, but what cracks me up the most is the expression on Santa's face. You can see it for yourself at <http://www.mit.edu/~sabuckle>.

So there you have it. I went through with the ordeal, and I'm still not sure if it was the "right" thing to do. But then I remember B with his fire and brimstone, and I realize that none of the morality matters: a Jew like me is going to be spending her afterlife in the eternal sauna no matter what.

And as always, send in dares. This week, I'm looking for more serious entries that will allow me to showcase the fact that I can write good columns without undressing in public. Direct your modest proposals to [sabuckle@mit.edu](mailto:sabuckle@mit.edu).

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2: Electronic music popular in clubs



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# COMICS

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# FUN

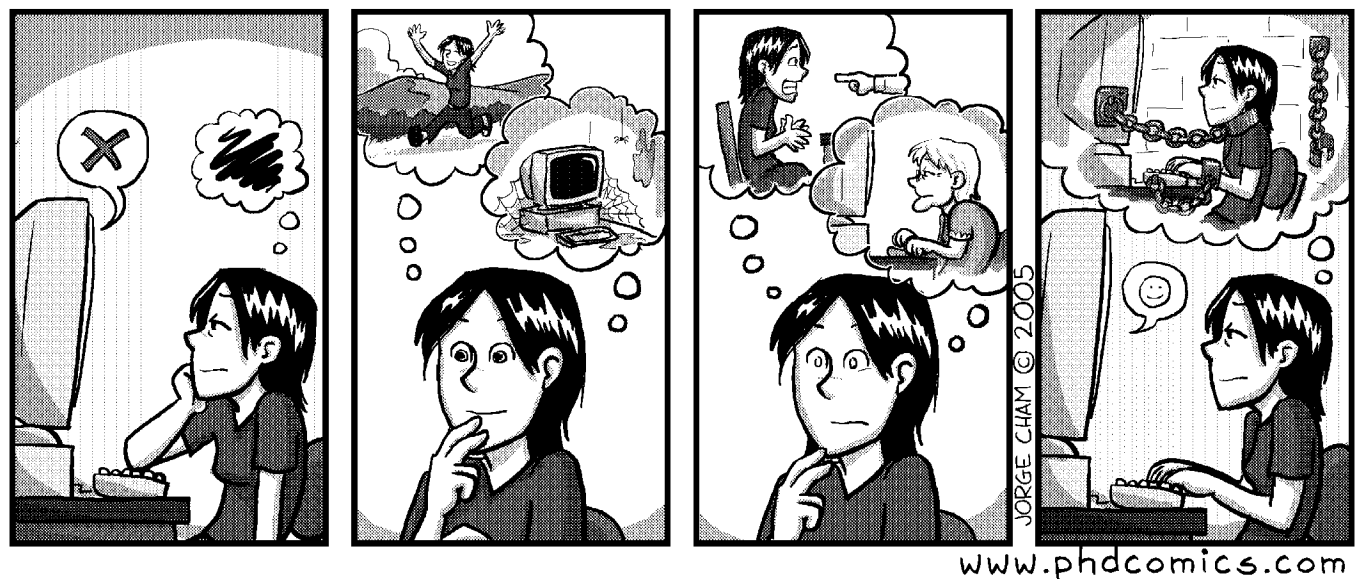
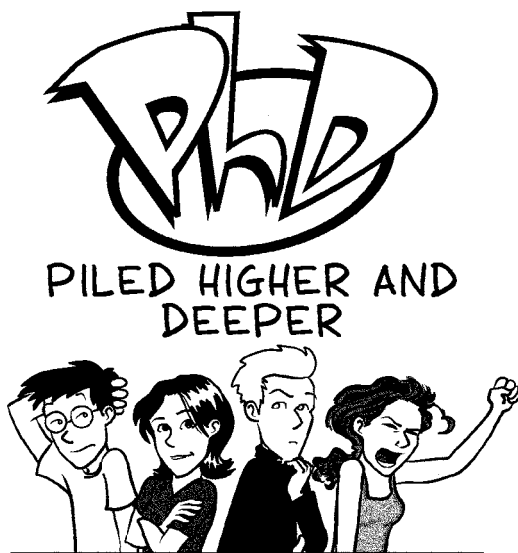
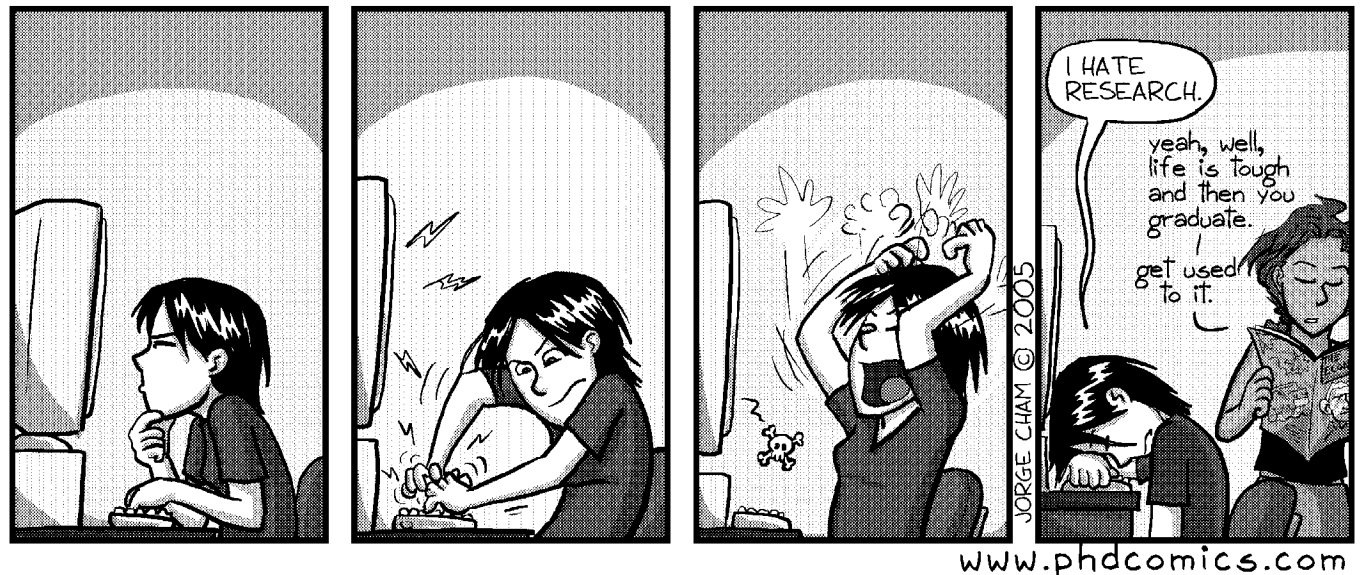
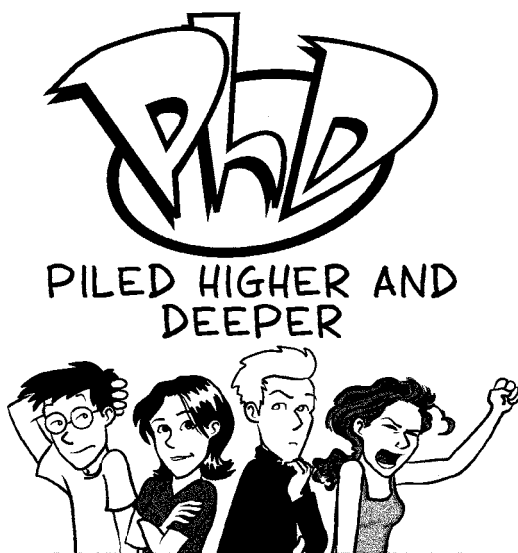
Page  
7

# PAGES

## Trio

Check out bonus comics at [ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE](http://ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE)

by Emezie Okorafor



**Crossword Puzzle**  
Solution, page 9

Bonus Crossword

Solution, page 11

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

su | do | ku

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Solution, tips, and compuer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that every column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contain exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution on page 11.



# Brody to Stay at MIT As Theater Professor

Brody, from Page 1

Brody’s most recent accomplishment among many is winning the Bloomington Playwrights Project Reva Shiner Full Length Play Contest for his work “The Housewives of Mannheim,” which deals with homosexuality and anti-Semitism. The Indiana-based BPP will show a production of Brody’s work from Feb. 9 to 25.

Nationally, Brody helped lead Teachers as Scholars, through which university faculty lead seminars for K-12 teachers on humanities, arts and sciences, and interdisciplinary topics. President Hockfield said in the press release that “As associate provost for the arts, Alan Brody has fostered a climate where the talents and imagination of our faculty and students can find their fullest artistic expression.”

# Biology Will Admit Its Own Undergraduates

Biology, from Page 1

though MIT undergraduates from other departments were eligible. But over the 30 years that the policy has been in place, the department has grown from 30 faculty members to more than 50 and diversified in interests, and similarity between the undergraduate and graduate programs is no longer a concern. The modification was made for this reason, not “at the behest of the students,” although a few biology undergraduate majors had expressed a desire to remain in the department, Bell said. “We still consider it a good idea for most students to go elsewhere,”

but will no longer absolutely prohibit the undergraduate biology majors from staying, since some “could still gain a lot” from the MIT graduate program, Bell said. Most MIT biology undergraduates, if admitted, would probably still want to attend other schools, he said. Although diversity of undergraduate institution is a factor in selecting the incoming class, MIT biology undergraduates will not specifically be evaluated differently from other applicants during the admissions process; each applicant will be considered on the basis of what he or she can bring to the class, Bell said.

## Police Log

*The following incidents were reported to the Cambridge or MIT Police between Dec. 20 and Jan. 8. This summary does not include incidents such as suspicious activity, false alarms, general service calls, or medical shuttles.*

**Dec. 20:** Student Center (84 Mass. Ave.), 12:30 p.m., larceny of bicycle (2 reports). Media Lab Bldg. (20 Ames St.), 4:30 p.m., outstanding arrest warrant delivered to Dong Zhang G; arrested by MIT Police for battery and assault with a dangerous weapon.

**Dec. 29:** Bldg. 35 (127 Mass Ave.), Rm. 520, 10:30 p.m., David Scrima, 45, of 150 E. 44th St., New York, arrested for trespass; property (\$273.05) belonging to the prisoner placed in Cambridge PD vault.

**Dec. 30:** [Location missing from Cambridge Police Log], 5:30 p.m., Sohrab Zand, 48, of 102 Dartmouth St., Boston, arrested for trespass.

**Jan. 2:** Lot 34 (Amherst Alley), tail lights to motor vehicle stolen.

**Jan 5:** Bldg. E25 (45 Carlton St.), 4:30 p.m., Sohrab Zand, 48, of 102 Dartmouth St., Boston, arrested for trespass after notice.

**Jan. 8:** Bldg. 4 (182 Memorial Dr. Rear), Guy McDowell, homeless, arrested for trespass after notice.

*Compiled by Marjan Rafat with assistance from other members of the MIT Crime Club.*

### Solution to Crossword

from page 7

S	W	A	M	P		G	A	V	E	C	H	A	S	E		
H	E	N	R	I		O	V	E	R	R	U	L	E	S		
A	B	A	S	E		B	A	R	R	E	T	T	E	S		
N	F	L				S	O	S			A	T	E			
G	O	O	F	F		S	M	A	R	T		R	O	N		
R	O	G	U	E		E	A	T								
I	T	I	N	E	R	A	R	I	E	S		J	C	T		
L	E	E				L	U	C	I	L	L	E		A	H	A
A	D	S				S	T	A	T	I	S	T	I	C	A	L
							P	A	T		I	R	A	N	I	
A	C	E				A	P	T	L		N	E	R	T	S	
A	L	L				B	E	A				A	R	M		
R	A	D	I	A	T	I	V	E			S	O	N	I	A	
G	R	E	A	T	E	N	E	D			A	U	D	E	N	
H	A	R	N	E	S	S	E	S			C	R	A	S	S	

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### Discover a newtonian mechanism for electron diffraction

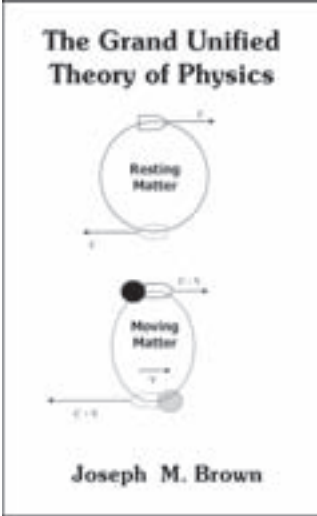
- When individual electrons impact a target with one hole a bell-shaped pattern is produced on the electron counter.
- When individual impacts of electrons impact a target with two holes they produce an interference pattern on the counter. Why?
- The electrostatic field of an electron is very large compared to the electron size. At each impact of a two-hole target part of the field passes through one hole and part passes through the other.
- Depending upon where along the electron wave the target and electron impact determines how the two split waves will combine and thus where it will impact the counter.

For more information and to access the book, visit [www.physicsunifiedtheory.com](http://www.physicsunifiedtheory.com)

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# Reeves Aims to Create Affordable Housing

**Reeves, from Page 1**

Councillors, are willing to send their kids to our public schools.” Reeves agreed that education is a high priority, saying that one of his

goals was to “give every student an education that equips them to succeed in the 21st century,” according to the *Chronicle*.

Sullivan said that he talked to Reeves about the importance of continuing to push forward recent improvements in the school system.

After Reeves was elected, the councillors elected Toomey as vice mayor. The same five councillors who initially voted for Reeves also gave Toomey their vote, while the four Simmons supporters, including Simmons, voted for Murphy. Once it was determined that Toomey had the majority, Davis, Kelley, Murphy, and Simmons gave their votes to Toomey, according to the Cambridge Civic Journal.

Following his most recent election to the mayoralty, Reeves told the *Chronicle* that Cambridge has “changed dramatically” since 1995 and that its middle class is disappearing.

In addition to supporting Cambridge’s biological sciences industry, according to the *Chronicle*, Reeves believes that many people are currently being forced out by the high cost of housing, and Cambridge must be made into a city where all of its citizens can stay.

Sullivan, who served as mayor for the last four years, said in an interview that although he would have enjoyed an opportunity to run for mayor again, he would like to spend more time with his two children, who are five and seven years old. Looking back, he said he has made major accomplishments in education, by providing leadership that did not exist in the past and encouraging the school committee to be more critical. He said he also promoted a literacy initiative by stressing the need for daycare providers and community members to take a role in creating earlier childhood literacy.



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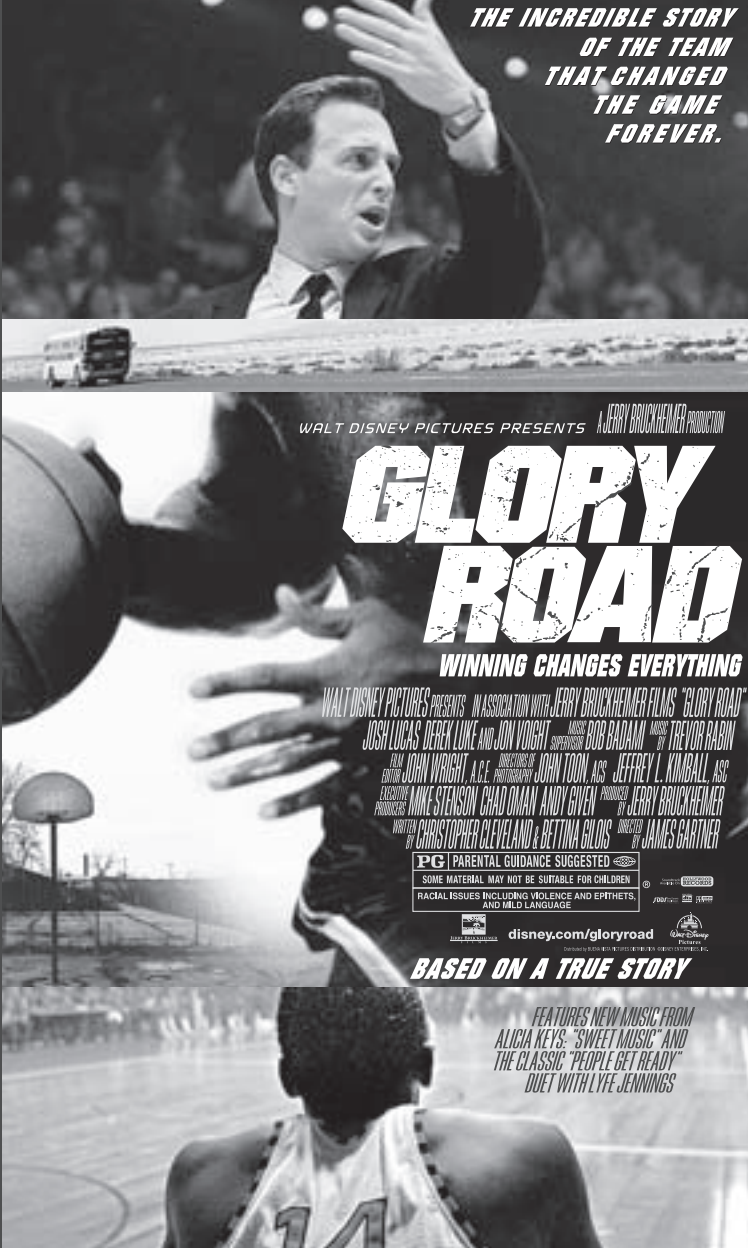
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FRED GAY—THE TECH

**A student plays Super Mario Bros. on the information kiosk in Lobby 7 on Dec. 14. The kiosk’s computer was set up to run the classic Nintendo game as part of a hack that extended down the entire Infinite Corridor.**

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See:<http://epidemiology.mit.edu> OCW BE.102 (2005)

## BE.102

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# Federal Science Funds Likely to be a Priority For D.C. Office Head

Bonvillian, from Page 1

and Technology, Bonvillian wrote of the challenges science faces as its federal budget tightens. "Federal budget deterioration, which will worsen with structural demographic and entitlement pressures, threatens the viability of our federal R&D capacity," he wrote. "We have an initial signal of that problem as annual appropriations for the National Science Foundation fail to meet authorized levels." Industry support for research and development is not sufficient, he wrote, as "a decline in the robustness of federal research funding will have ramifications for the private sector's innovation performance, and future prospects for federal research spending are grim."

Like Hockfield, who often speaks of growing up in "the shadow of Sputnik" when the emphasis on physical sciences was stronger, Bonvillian has commented on benefits that the U.S. reaped from its Cold War investments in science and engineering, adding in the 2004 article that the "United States needs to fashion a new competitiveness agenda designed to speed the velocity of in-

novation to meet the great challenges of the new century."

Bonvillian's previous positions include partner in a national law firm and deputy assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Transportation in the late 1970s. He has also taught at Georgetown University as an adjunct professor, and is slated to teach a seminar entitled "Innovation Systems for Science, Technology and Health" this spring. His Georgetown University profile notes his extensive work on legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security, as well as recent work on legislation for intelligence reform.

Bonvillian earned a bachelor's degree from Columbia in history, a master's in religion from Yale, and a JD from Columbia School of Law.

Though Bonvillian's title as director of federal relations will differ slightly from Vice President Crowley's, their duties will be the same, and Bonvillian will report directly to MIT's president as Crowley did, said MIT spokesperson Denise Brehm, who pointed out that Crowley began his years in the Washington Office as director for federal relations and was later named vice president.

*International competitiveness of United States education will continue to decline without intervention.*

# Duration of Exec. VP Search 'Unpredictable'

Greenblatt, from Page 1

executive vice president's office with the retirement of Treasurer Allan S. Bufferd '59 at the end of the academic year. MIT's investment function and endowment management, also currently managed by Bufferd, will become the responsibility of a separate office.

Greenblatt described his last four months as vice president as similar to his undergraduate experience at MIT: like "the end of the firehose, where you're in a big place, and everyone expects you to learn everything and know everything instantly."

President Susan Hockfield said in August that the search for a new executive vice president would take several months. According to Kolenbrander, "the process is well underway; we've had the opportunity to talk to a number of excellent candidates."

Greenblatt said the search "could have taken three months ... but it's

a process that's very unpredictable. Some other universities have been searching up to 18 months [to fill] this kind of position."

Asked if he would accept the permanent position were he offered it, Greenblatt laughed. "I originally retired three years ago from a job where I was having a great time, because I wanted to have my free time and pursue interests that I couldn't when I had a real job. This is a no-joke real job ... I have a contribution to make here, but eventually it needs someone willing to stay for the duration."

## Solution to Bonus Crossword


from page 8

B	O	B	S		B	E	H	A	V	E		A	K	A
S	N	A	P		A	L	I	C	I	A		S	E	L
A	T	R	A		R	E	R	U	N	S		P	E	I
	H	O	W	S	E	V	E	R	Y	T	H	I	N	G
P	E	N	N	E			A	L	S	O	R	A	N	
E	M	I		C	A	N	I	S			Y	E	N	S
R	A	E		T	E	E	N		A	T	L			
I	T	S	G	O	O	D	T	O	S	E	E	Y	O	U
			E	R	N		W	I	T	H		E	B	S
S	E	A	N			P	O	L	A	R		A	L	T
A	C	R	E	A	G	E				A	T	R	I	A
W	H	A	T	S	H	A	P	P	E	N	I	N	G	
R	O	B		C	A	N	O	E	S		B	I	A	S
E	E	L		O	N	U	S	E	S		I	N	T	L
D	D	E		T	A	T	T	L	E		A	G	E	R

## Solution to Sudoku

from page 8

4	8	9	7	3	2	5	6	1
5	3	2	1	8	6	7	4	9
6	1	7	4	9	5	8	2	3
8	2	3	5	4	9	1	7	6
7	5	4	8	6	1	3	9	2
1	9	6	2	7	3	4	8	5
9	4	5	3	2	7	6	1	8
2	7	1	6	5	8	9	3	4
3	6	8	9	1	4	2	5	7



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## JUDGES

Marvin Minsky  
Tod Machover  
Mary Farbood

Guest Judge: Edge from U2

## PRIZES

Prizes are much too cool to be announed on this puny ad. See [www.h-lounge.com](http://www.h-lounge.com) for details.

Winner announcement: Friday, January 27, 2006 4:30p.m.

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Next Grant Application Deadline

1 February 2006

CCRR

committee on campus race relations



SPORTS

Coast Guard Trounces Women's Basketball Team in 78-52 Win

By Mindy Brauer  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

A dominating performance from three-point range helped lead the U.S. Coast Guard Academy to a 78-52 win over MIT in New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) women's basketball action on Saturday. The Bears (3-4, 2-0 NEWMAC) made 14 of 29 shots from behind the arc while shooting 9 of 24 from the floor. Jen Makowski came off the bench for Coast Guard to finish with a game-high 22 points on 8 of 9 shooting, including five treys. Kimberly E. Soo Hoo '08 paced the Engineers (3-5, 0-2 NEWMAC) with 12 points and six assists.

Tech maintained a six-point lead for the first five minutes of the contest until threes from DeCarol Davis and Laura Hutchinson knotted the game at 10-10. A pair of lay-ups by Karen A. Kinnaman '06 and a free-throw from Sharon M. Prange '07 put MIT ahead by five. Coast Guard tallied seven unanswered points, resulting in its first lead at the 8:54 mark. Baskets from Clara J. Yuan '09 and Soo Hoo put the Engineers up, 19-17, within a minute. The Bears took the lead for good on a trey from Makowski at 7:05, sparking an 8-0 run during the next 1:30. Coast Guard entered the intermission with a 36-27 advantage.

MIT quickly got on the scoreboard in the second quarter, with Soo Hoo sinking a jumper after four seconds had expired. Davis countered with a three-pointer for a 39-

29 lead. The Engineers cut the deficit to one in a span of two minutes. The Bears responded with an eight-point spurt that ended with 12:38 remaining on the clock. Jumpers from Soo Hoo and Andrea J. Dooley '06 brought Tech within five (47-42) two minutes later. However, it would be as close as MIT would get after a four-point play by Makowski at 9:46 shifted the momentum to Coast Guard. The Bears went on to outscore the Engineers, 27-10, to close the game.

Yuan finished with 11 points for Tech while Kinnaman and Samantha O'Keefe '09 each contributed eight. Prange paced MIT on the boards with seven rebounds as Kinnaman collected six.

Natalie Moyer and Davis also finished with double-figures in scoring for Coast Guard. Moyer posted 21 points, including a 10 of 11 performance from the free-throw line, and added six rebounds and four steals. Davis totaled 14 points while Mary Arvidson grabbed a team-high seven caroms. Hutchinson and Arvidson both dished out five assists.

The next game for MIT will be on Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. when it travels to Brandeis University.

Women's Ice Hockey

Megan Irving's two goals and five assists helped lead the University of Southern Maine to a 10-2 victory over MIT in ECAC East women's ice hockey action on Saturday. The win lifts the Huskies to 4-10-0 on the year and 4-6-0 in conference play.

The Engineers' record drops to 0-7-0 overall and 0-4-0 in the ECAC East.

The Huskies opened the scoring 4:02 into the contest when Amy McNally converted a pass from Irving. Caitlin Tassone provided an unassisted goal late in the period, resulting in a 2-0 advantage at the first intermission.

Katie Quartuccio and Irving collaborated on back-to-back scores midway through the second period. The first proved to be the game-winner at 7:14 while the second was a power-play goal. Kelly Connors extended Southern Maine's lead to 5-0 by connecting on a feed from Stephanie King. MIT ended the shutout at 16:58 when Mary P. Harding '07 set up Amanda P. Hunter '07 for her first goal of the season.

Irving scored 35 seconds into the third period just as a power-play expired on passes by Amy McNally and Quartuccio. The Huskies notched two more goals before Tech's Sara E. John '09 recorded an unassisted tally at 8:28, bringing the score to 8-2.

Southern Maine's next goal came from Quartuccio at 11:12, giving her a hat trick and giving McNally a third assist in the frame. Caitlin Cashman closed the scoring a minute later on an unassisted goal.

Sally W. Simpson '09 collected 48 saves for the Engineers while Jen Arno stopped 30 shots for the Huskies.

The next game for MIT will be on Saturday, Jan. 14 when the Engineers travel to Rochester Institute of Technology.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Thursday, Jan. 12, 2006

Varsity Men's Basketball vs. Rhode Island College, 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Saturday, Jan. 14, 2006

Varsity Wrestling vs. Trinity College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Williams College, 12 p.m., du Pont Gymnasium  
Varsity Women's Swimming and Diving vs. Brandeis University and Colby College, 1 p.m., Zesiger Sports Center

Varsity Men's Swimming and Diving vs. Brandeis University and Colby College, 1 p.m., Zesiger Sports Center

Varsity Men's Basketball vs. Babson College, 2 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2006

Varsity Women's Basketball vs. Wheaton College, 5 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Varsity Men's Basketball vs. Clark University, 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage



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Becky GRT/Senior v. Undergrad Softball Game (Undergrads won, 19-9) Photo: Dan Schultz

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Sidney-Pacific Multipurpose Room

Wednesday, Jan. 11th @ 7 PM  
Westgate Basement Lounge

Friday, Jan. 20th @ 3 PM  
GSC Office, 50-220

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